

August 3, 1967

## CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

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KIRCHER: I have not made any direct attempts. It would seem to me that the fact that the President is from Texas is accidental. It would seem to me that the Governor of Texas, just as the governor of any of the other 50 states should be a big enough boy to stand on his own two feet and do the thing that is right, without having to have a chief executive who just accidentally comes from his state lean on him. No, I have not made any direct approaches.

LEVY: Mr. Kircher, one of the weapons used effectively in California was a consumer boycott of products of strike-bound growers out there. Are you using the same technique in Texas?

KIRCHER: Yes we are. It is a little difficult to boycott honeydew melons and other kinds of sugar melons. But, we are asking anybody who finds melons that have little labels on them that say "Starr County, Texas," in any way, or "La Casita," not to buy them, because they are helping to inflict conditions of poverty on workers every time they do.

FLANNERY: Thank you, gentlemen. Today's guest on Labor News Conference was William L. Kircher, director of the AFL-CIO's Department of Organization. Representing the press were Sam Sharkey, labor specialist for the Newhouse Newspapers, and Stanley Levey, labor correspondent for the Scripps-Howard Newspapers. This is your moderator, Harry W. Flannery, inviting you to listen again next week. Labor News Conference is a public affairs production of the AFL-CIO, produced in cooperation with the Mutual Radio Network.

#### ISRAEL ATTACK ON U.S.S. "LIBERTY"—RESOLUTION

Mr. TOWER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the text of a resolution approved by the American Legion Post 52 of Houston subsequent to the Israel attack on the U.S.S. *Liberty*. The resolution addresses itself to this incident.

There being no objection, the resolution was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

Whereas the American Legion has always championed the rights of our service men and of their dependents and survivors; and

Whereas Israel's unprovoked attack on the U.S.S. *Liberty* in international waters on June 8 requires strong measures on the part of our government if our national honor is to be protected and if justice is to be done to the seventy odd service men injured in Israel's attacks and to the next of kin and dependents of the thirty odd servicemen killed, and

Whereas this an area where the American Legion is especially dedicated and qualified to take leadership and is also the sort of issue where the American people can and should be vocal in demanding proper handling of these acts of piracy.

Now, therefore, Be It Resolved by the American Legion, Post 52, Houston, Texas, in regular meeting this July 3, 1967 as follows:

1. We ask this Post to undertake to obtain copies of all available reports of hearings heretofore had or hereafter to be had into the facts; also that we undertake to learn the names of the service men injured in these attacks and the next of kin and dependents of those who were killed.

2. We ask that our Post register a complaint with the appropriate authorities and officers in our government demanding proper steps on the part of our government to, first, see that adequate indemnities are paid by Israel to the service men injured and to the next of kin and dependents of those who were killed; and also indemnity for damages

to the U.S.S. *Liberty*; second, that the Israel authorities who are to blame for these crimes on the high seas be brought to account and dealt with in any proper tribunal where they are answerable or, in the absence of such tribunal then through diplomatic channels;

3. That this subject be acted on by our Department and National conventions and that the National Convention be called on to set up a commission or committee whose sole responsibility will be the adequate investigation of the entire subject and to follow up our protest and recommendations to see that justice will be had for our service men involved and for the next of kin and dependents of those who were killed in the attacks; also to see that those Israel officials or personnel who were responsible for the attacks be punished in keeping with their participation and in keeping with the enormity of their criminal acts.

The foregoing is certified as a true copy of resolution adopted as and when stated. Certified July 3, 1967.

GLENN TRUPPER, Commander.  
GEORGE W. SIEFERT, Adjutant.

#### POWERLINE REGULATION

Mr. TYDINGS. Mr. President, it is becoming increasingly apparent to all responsible public officials and citizens generally that we need to have Federal legislation which will empower the Federal Power Commission to exercise control over extra-high-voltage electrical transmission lines that are interstate in character. A case in point which illustrates the need for this legislation is the proposal by the Potomac Edison Co. of Hagerstown, Md., to construct a 500,000-volt electric transmission line through the Antietam and South Mountain Battlefield areas of southern Washington and Frederick Counties, Md. The location of this line is opposed by the Washington County Planning and Zoning Committee, the Washington County Board of Commissioners, the Department of Interior, My colleague from Maryland [Mr. BREWSTER] and myself; and various Civil War roundtables. It has been editorialized against in the Hagerstown Daily Mail; the Hagerstown Morning Herald; the Washington Post; and Life magazine.

The Maryland Legislative Council has voted to ask its Senate Judiciary Committee to look into the matter, and the chairman of that committee, Delegate Thomas Hunter Lowe, has asked Potomac Edison not to proceed with its plans for the new powerline until the committee has completed its investigation.

The Department of Interior has a task force of experts which is considering alternate routings of the line and has publicly announced that they will report shortly after mid-July.

In spite of this very formidable opposition from public officials and private groups, Mr. President, we read with great dismay that on July 7, 1967, the Potomac Edison Co. filed a condemnation suit against one of the property owners on the proposed right-of-way of the 500,000-volt powerline.

Again, Mr. President, this illustrates the urgent need to pass the legislation—S. 1834 and S. 1835—introduced by the Senator from Montana [Mr. METCALF], and which I have cosponsored, to authorize Federal Power Commission jurisdiction over interstate high-voltage-electric

transmission lines and would require that, before issuing a certificate of necessity to a power company, the Commission would consider the impact of the line upon esthetic, historic, and scenic values.

I invite attention of Senators to the excellent column written by Mr. Phil Ebersole, Daily Mail government affairs editor of the Hagerstown Daily Mail, and published on July 7, 1967. This excellent column points up the need to preserve historic and scenic values from destruction by electric transmission lines. I ask unanimous consent that the article and editorial be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article and editorial were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### POTOMAC EDISON FILES SUIT TO CONDEMN FOR RIGHT-OF-WAY

The Potomac Edison Company filed a condemnation suit for a right-of-way for its 500,000 volt power line against George A. Coblentz and Helen E. Coblentz, and Roy H. Coblentz, of Knoxville, Rt. 2.

George A. Coblentz and Helen E. Coblentz own a half interest and Roy H. Coblentz owns a half interest in a Sandy Hook tract of land that PE proposes to put the power line across.

Potomac Edison asks for a right-of-way of 100 feet in either direction for the 500,000 volt line and asks permission to cut all underbrush on the right-of-way, according to legal papers filed at the Washington County Courthouse. The papers say the towers will be 122 feet high, give or take 10 feet.

#### INSIDE ANTIETAM'S SECOND BATTLE: POWER LINES, PLEASE GO AWAY

(By Phil Ebersole)

Out of the uproar over the Potomac Edison power line in southern Washington County, one conclusion is fairly plain:

It would be better for Washington County if the power line were relocated north of Sharpsburg or south of Harpers Ferry.

Potomac Edison is no villain. The 500,000 volt power lines it wants to build are a national necessity. The power lines have to go somewhere, they are sure to be unpopular wherever they go, and there is nothing on paper to indicate to PE that it should go elsewhere.

The responsibility for providing proper guidelines for locating the power lines is a responsibility, not of Potomac Edison, but of the county, state and federal governments. Potomac Edison has acted in good faith in following the guidelines it has been given.

#### HISTORIC AREA

New guidelines are being developed by the Washington County Planning and Zoning Commission, which has sought the advice of the Washington County Historical Society and the Hagerstown Civil War Round Table. In mapping the historic sites of Washington County.

In trying this approach, the Planning and Zoning Commission, in my opinion, is in the right church, but the wrong pew.

Washington County is saturated with historic sites, someone like the late E. Russell Hicks could tell the history of practically any square yard of Washington County.

It does not therefore follow that everything with a long history is worthy of preservation or restoration in its original state. Fox Decelved Farm, for example, has a long history. If someone is willing to take the trouble to erect a small marker at Fox Decelved Farm noting this, it would be very nice, but it is hard to see why the Planning and Zoning Commission would want to get involved with Fox Decelved Farm.

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Or take the Hager House, as a second example. Hager House is an outstanding example of historic restoration. But the value of the historic restoration is not spoiled by the railroad tracks that run behind it or the factory located near by. The value of Hager House, to that extent, is independent of its surroundings.

## THIS IS DIFFERENT

But I think the southern part of Washington County is different. I think having 100 foot towers pass by the Antietam Battlefield is bad in a way that having the towers pass by Hager House or Fox Deceived Farm would not be.

The southern part of Washington County is of national, not merely local, historic importance. It adjoins Harpers Ferry and contains the Antietam Battlefield. Harpers Ferry was the scene of John Brown's Raid. The Battle of Antietam was the occasion for the Emancipation Proclamation. Harpers Ferry and Antietam comprise the story of the abolition of slavery in America—probably the most important event in American history besides the American Revolution itself.

Antietam and Harpers Ferry are now important tourist attractions. According to the Department of the Interior, they will someday be joined by an Antietam Heritage Trail and an improved C & O Canal, which will provide facilities for the boater, the fisherman, the hiker and the bicyclist.

Overlooking Harpers Ferry is Maryland Heights, donated to the U.S. Government by the Washington County Historical Society, and Fort Duncan, which is in the hands of private developers. Nearby is the John Brown Farm, also in the hands of a private developer.

Just as the C & O Canal runs along the county's western boundary, the Appalachian Trail runs along its eastern boundary, linking Harpers Ferry to Gathland State Park and Washington Monument State Park.

All this is in one of the most beautiful natural settings in the eastern United States. It is much more attractive than the areas around Gettysburg Battlefield.

Historic significance, a beautiful landscape and varied recreational opportunities combine to make southern Washington County a potential tourist attraction of national importance—a major economic asset to the people of Washington County and a place capable of giving pleasure and inspiration to thousands.

## POWERLINE EFFECT

To be sure, all these things will still be there even if the 500,000 volt power line is built as planned.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and different people react differently to the same thing. John Frye believes the towers will spoil the appearance of Pleasant Valley. Bonnard J. Morgan doesn't believe they will. Robert Lagemann says the power line won't make any difference to tourists at Antietam Battlefield. Stewart Udall says it will.

Even if everyone agrees that the power lines would look nicer elsewhere, there is still the problem of weighing this against the cost of locating the lines elsewhere. More will be known about this when the Interior Department's electric power experts complete their study of the feasibility of alternate routes. Potomac Edison even so may feel it is being asked to compare the proverbial apples and peaches—things which are too unlike for comparison.

In this case, however, I think the burden of proof is on Potomac Edison. The beauty of a landscape is like any other natural resource. It cannot be added to; it can only be taken away from. Potomac Edison, in time, can absorb a moderately increased cost. The landscape will never absorb the power line; the subtraction will be permanent.

For this reason I believe the county, state and federal governments should do what

they can to keep out the power lines and anything else that would spoil this area.

## COMPLIMENT TO VETERANS HOSPITAL IN LISBON, TEX.

Mr. TOWER. Mr. President, a Senator's mail brings to his desk each day a cross section of the world's problems, and I suppose, of course, that this is as it should be. We do want to know what needs attention.

Nevertheless, it is refreshing to glimpse the other side of reality when a constituent is courteous enough to write about how well things are going. I was fortunate enough to receive such a letter recently from Mr. Carl B. Callaway, a vice president of Transcontinental Bus System, Inc.

To him I extend my thanks, and to the administrator and personnel of the veterans' hospital in Lisbon—whose outstanding service was the subject of his letter—I express my congratulations and appreciation on behalf of the people of Texas.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of Mr. Callaway's letter be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letter was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TRANSCONTINENTAL BUS SYSTEM, INC.,  
Dallas, Tex., July 21, 1967.

Senator JOHN TOWER,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR SENATOR TOWER: I recently had an experience which I would like to call to your attention.

For something in excess of sixty years, there was working for my wife's family an old colored man who originally came to the family as an orphan boy who had run away from home when he was about nine years old. Recently this old man became ill and inasmuch as he had served in World War I, we took him to the Veterans' Hospital in Lisbon, Texas, for examination. The hospital staff gave him an immediate and careful examination; came to the tentative conclusion that he had a possibly serious malignancy; and immediately admitted him to the hospital.

He was in the hospital approximately two months and all of my family were simply amazed at the careful and conscientious attention which he received. Different members of the family made it a practice to go out to see him at regular intervals, and I do not believe any one of us was ever at the hospital when some one associated with the hospital staff did not come by to administer to him in some way. He finally died a few days ago, but only after he had received as excellent care as any patient could have possibly received in any hospital.

The staff of the Veterans' Hospital in Lisbon seemed to me to be so dedicated and so conscientious in their work that I felt I wished to call this to your personal attention. If all the Veterans' Hospitals around the country operate anything like the Veterans' Hospital in Lisbon, we are indeed fortunate.

Respectfully yours,

CARL B. CALLAWAY.

## FARMWORKERS NEED COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Mr. WILLIAMS of New Jersey. Mr. President, Mr. Walter P. Reuther, president of the Industrial Union Department of the AFL-CIO and president of the United Auto Workers, submitted

valuable testimony to the Subcommittee on Migratory Labor on July 13. In support of legislation to extend to the farmworkers the rights of union representation and collective bargaining, he stated:

Farm industries will have more labor peace, not less, once farm workers are organized and there are bona fide guarantees which workers can rely on. Farm workers live and work in an economic jungle today. Once they have the right to join unions and work under negotiated contracts, there will be a civilizing atmosphere good for both employer and employee.

I wish here to highlight only a few of the important issues presented in his statement. In discussing the precedents in this field, Mr. Reuther presented evidence which shows that there was no substantial argument for ever dropping the farmworkers from our collective-bargaining laws. Rather than on any grounds of philosophy, the exclusion was made because of political expediency and public apathy.

Turning to the farm employers who fear that once legally organized, the workers might inflict crippling strikes during prime picking time, he noted that the majority of union contracts, including all those negotiated last year by the farmworkers union in Delano, Calif., contained no-strike clauses, barring any such action for the life of the contract.

Finally, speaking for the UAW and IUD, Mr. Reuther concluded by asserting that they of the American labor movement are very willing to take up the task of organizing farmworkers. Recalling their past record of having encouraged farmworker unions for years, and of having given money for their struggle, he pledged backing for the continuance of this battle.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Mr. Reuther's statement be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENT OF WALTER P. REUTHER, PRESIDENT, INDUSTRIAL UNION DEPARTMENT, AFL-CIO, AND PRESIDENT, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE, AND AGRICULTURE IMPLEMENT WORKERS, BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON MIGRATORY LABOR, SENATE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND PUBLIC WELFARE, ON S. 8, JULY 13, 1967

Mr. Chairman and members of the Senate Subcommittee on Migratory Labor, on behalf of the 1.6 million members of the UAW and the 7 million members of the Industrial Union Department, I am here to ask that Congress give America's farm workers the same right to vote for union representation and the same right to bargain for wages, hours and working conditions as millions of other American wage earners have.

Farm workers are the poorest of the working poor. They work short seasons when they work, and they work for miserably low wages. Their hours are long and their working conditions are unspeakably bad. Only this year for the very first time did the federal minimum wage law cover farm workers on the very largest factory farms at \$1.00 an hour. Farm workers have but minimal effective coverage under Social Security.

This Subcommittee has done yeoman work in calling attention to the wants and needs of farm workers. Your solid and intensive investigation of farm worker problems has helped Congress and the nation realize how much remains to be done before farm workers